

I. LISTING OF CLAIMS:

15. (previously amended) A contractor/customer ordering computer program product, tangibly embodied on a machine-readable medium, comprising instructions operable to cause a programmable processor to:

initiate a contractor/customer ordering computer program;

receive data entered by a contractor/customer in response to a display initiated by the ordering program;

display a menu from which the contractor/customer selects a classification of construction materials or products, the classification associated with a construction phase, the contractor/customer further selecting a set of construction materials or products within the classification;

display a set of specific material or product names corresponding to at least one of the selected construction materials or products, the set of specific material or product names being dependent on an identified supplier such that the set includes only names of specific materials or products that are provided by the identified supplier;

in response to the contractor/customer selecting one or more of the displayed specific material or product names and a specific quantity desired for each selected specific material or product name, record the specific material or product name and a quantity for each specific material or product name selected;

generate a list displaying the specific material or product name and the quantity for each specific material or product name selected;

enable the contractor/customer to access at least one of a SKU number, a UPC, a bar code, and a material or product number for each individual material or product name selected; and

cause data corresponding to the list and data pertaining to contractor/customer identification information entered into the ordering program to be transferred to the identified supplier.

16. (previously amended) The contractor/customer ordering computer program product of claim 15 wherein the step of causing data corresponding to the list and data pertaining to contractor/customer identification information to be transferred to the identified supplier is performed by the contractor/customer ordering computer program itself by directly transferring the data from the list and the data pertaining to contractor/customer identification information to the identified supplier.

17. (previously amended) The contractor/customer ordering computer program product of claim 15 wherein the material or product number, SKU number, UPC, or bar code is specific to the identified supplier.

18. (previously added) The contractor/customer ordering computer program product of claim 15 wherein the plurality of potential suppliers are affiliated with separate and distinct companies.


19. (previously added) The contractor/customer ordering computer program product of claim 15 wherein the data corresponding to the list and the data pertaining to contractor/customer identification information is transferred electronically.

20. (previously added) The contractor/customer ordering computer program product of claim 15 wherein the data corresponding to the list and the data pertaining to the contractor/customer identification information is transferred by facsimile transmission.

21. (previously amended) The contractor/customer ordering program product of claim 15 wherein the identified supplier comprises a national chain.

22. (previously amended) The contractor/customer ordering program product of claim 15 further comprising instructions for downloading a current list of costs for each specific material or product from the identified supplier.

23. (previously amended) The contractor/customer ordering program product of claim 15 further comprising instructions for returning a cost estimate from the identified supplier to the contractor/customer.

 24. (previously amended) The contractor/customer ordering program product of claim 15 further comprising instructions for requesting a date of delivery of the construction materials or products from the identified supplier.

25. (previously amended) The contractor/customer ordering program product of claim 15 further comprising instructions for providing a confirmation from the identified supplier to the contractor/customer.

26. (previously amended) The contractor/customer ordering program product of claim 15 wherein the construction phase comprises at least one of a foundation, plumbing, framing, and roofing materials or products phase.

27. (previously added) The contractor/customer ordering program of claim 15 wherein the steps recited therein are performed consecutively.

28. (previously amended) A method for communicating construction material data or construction product data from a contractor/customer to a supplier of construction materials or products, the method comprising:

initiating a contractor/customer ordering computer program;

entering data in response to a display initiated by an ordering program;

selecting a classification of construction materials or products from a menu displayed by the ordering program, the classification associated with a construction phase;

selecting a set of construction materials or products within the classification;

the ordering program displaying a set of specific material or product names corresponding to the selected construction materials or products, the set of specific material or product names being dependent on the supplier such that the set includes only names of specific materials or products that are provided by the supplier;

selecting one or more of the displayed specific material or product names and a quantity desired for each selected specific material or product name, the ordering program recording at least one of the specific material or product name, a material or product number, a SKU number, a UPC, a bar code, and the quantity for each specific material or product name selected;

the ordering program generating a list displaying the at least one of the specific material or product name, the material or product number, the SKU number, the UPC, the bar code, and the quantity for each specific material or product name selected; and

the ordering program causing data corresponding to the list and data pertaining to contractor/customer identification information entered into the ordering program to be transferred to the supplier.

29. (previously amended) The method of claim 28 wherein causing data corresponding to the list and data pertaining to contractor/customer identification information to be transferred to the supplier is performed by the contractor/customer ordering computer

program itself by directly transferring the data from the list and the data pertaining to contractor/customer identification information to the supplier.

30. (previously amended) The method of claim 28 wherein the product number, SKU number, UPC, or bar code is specific to the supplier.

31. (cancelled).

32. (previously amended) The method of claim 28 wherein the ordering program transfers the data corresponding to the list and the data pertaining to contractor/customer identification information electronically.

b1 33. (previously amended) The method of claim 28 wherein the ordering program transfers the data corresponding to the list and the data pertaining to the contractor/customer identification information by facsimile transmission.

34. (previously amended) The method of claim 28 wherein the supplier comprises a national chain.

35. (previously amended) The method of claim 28 wherein the ordering program downloads a current list of costs for each specific material or product from the supplier.

36. (previously amended) The method of claim 28 wherein the ordering program returns a cost estimate from the supplier to the contractor/customer.

37. (previously amended) The method of claim 28 further comprising requesting a date of delivery of the construction materials or products from the supplier.

38. (previously amended) The method of claim 28 wherein the ordering program provides a confirmation from the supplier to the contractor/customer.

39. (previously amended) The method of claim 28 wherein the construction phase comprises one or more of a foundation, plumbing, framing, and roofing materials or products phase.

40. (previously added) The method of claim 28 wherein the steps recited therein are performed consecutively.

41. (previously amended) A system comprising an ordering computer and a contractor/customer interconnected by a network:

the ordering computer being programmed to initiate a contractor/customer ordering computer program;

the ordering computer being programmed to receive data entered by a contractor/customer in response to a display on a contractor/customer computer initiated by the ordering program;

the ordering computer program being programmed to cause a display of a menu on the contractor/customer computer from which the contractor/customer selects a classification of construction materials or products, the classification associated with a construction phase, and upon selection of a classification, to cause a display of a menu of a set of construction materials or products within the classification;

the ordering computer being programmed to cause a display on the contractor/customer computer of a set of specific material or product names corresponding to the selected construction materials or products, the set of specific material or product names being dependent on an identified supplier such that the set includes only names of specific materials or products that are provided by the identified supplier;

in response to the contractor/customer selecting one or more of the displayed specific material or product names and a quantity desired for each selected specific material or product name, the ordering computer being programmed to record the specific material or product name and the quantity for each specific material or product selected;

the ordering computer being programmed to generate a list displaying on the contractor/customer computer the specific material or product name and the quantity for each specific material or product name selected;

the ordering program being programmed to enable the contractor/customer to access at least one of a SKU number, a UPC, a bar code, and a material or product number for each a specific material or product name selected; and

the ordering computer being programmed to cause data corresponding to the list and data pertaining to contractor/customer identification information entered into the ordering program to be transferred to the ordering computer.

42. (previously added) The system of claim 41 wherein the steps recited therein are performed consecutively.

43. (previously added) A method for facilitating the ordering of construction supplies by a customer over the Internet, the method comprising:

receiving a supplier reference indicating a supplier;

providing the customer with a phase list comprising references to each of a plurality of construction phases;

receiving a customer selection of a construction phase from the phase list;

providing the customer with a supply list comprising references to a plurality of supplies associated with the selected construction phase, the plurality of supplies being available from the indicated supplier;

allowing the customer to make a supply selection of at least one supply from the supply list;

recording the supply selection;

listing the supply selection;

allowing the customer to remove supply selections from the listing; and

transferring the list to the indicated supplier in response to an order send command.

44. (previously added) The method of claim 43, wherein the phase list comprises at least one phase associated with constructing a building.

45. (previously added) The method of claim 44, wherein the phase is selected from at least one of a wiring phase; a plumbing phase; a flooring phase; a kitchen and bath phase; a lighting phase; a foundation phase; a siding phase; a heating and cooling phase; and a windows and doors phase.

46. (previously added) The method of claim 43, further comprising providing the customer with a supplier list and allowing the customer to select a supplier from the supplier list.

47. (previously added) The method of claim 43, wherein the supply list includes construction materials.

48. (previously added) The method of claim 43, wherein the supply list includes tools.

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49. (previously added) The method of claim 43, wherein the listing includes for each supply selection, a part name and at least one of a merchant specific part number, a SKU, a universal product code, and a bar code.

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